

Roberto VILLA et al.

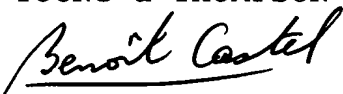
R E M A R K S

The above changes in the claims merely place this national phase application in the same condition as it was during Chapter II of the international phase, with the multiple dependencies being removed. Following entry of this amendment by substitution of the pages, only claims 1-14 remain pending in this application. Claims 3-5, 7, 9-11 and 13-14 were amended to correct multiple dependency. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

Respectfully submitted,

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"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE"

Claims 3-5, 7, 9-11 and 13-14 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) Composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 2~~ claim 1 in which the amphiphilic compounds are polar lipids of type I or II (lecithin, phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine), ceramides, glycol alkyl ethers, esters of fatty acids with polyethylene glycols or diethylene glycols.

4. (Amended) Compositions as claimed in ~~claim 1, 2 or 3~~, in which the lipophilic matrix consists of compound selected from unsaturated or hydrogenated alcohols or fatty acids, salts, esters or amides thereof, mono-, di- or triglycerids of fatty acids, the polyethoxylated derivatives thereof, waxes, cholesterol derivatives.

5. (Amended) Compositions as claimed in ~~any one of the above claims~~, claim 1, in which the hydrophilic matrix consists of hydrogel-forming compounds.

7. (Amended) Compositions as claimed in ~~any one of the above claims~~, claim 1, comprising a gastro-resistant coating.

9. (Amended) Compositions as claimed in ~~any one of the above claims~~, claim 1, in which the active ingredient is wholly contained in the inert /amphiphilic matrix, in the form of tablets, capsules or minitables.

10. (Amended) Compositions as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 in which the active ingredient is dispersed both in the hydrophylic matrix and in the lipophilic/amphiphilic matrix, in the form of tablets, capsules or minitables.

11. (Amended) Compositions as claimed in ~~any one of the above claims~~, claim 1, in which the active ingredient belongs to the therapeutical classes of analgesics, antitussives, bronchodilators, antipsychotics, selective β 2 antagonists, calcium antagonists, antiparkinson drugs, non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs, antihistamines, antidiarrheals and intestinal antiinflammatories, apasmolytics, anxiolytics, oral antidiabetics, cathartics, antiepileptics, topical antimicrobials.

13. (Amended) Compositions as claimed in ~~any one of the above claims~~, claim 1, containing bioadhesive substances.

14. (Amended) Pharmaceutical compositions as claimed in ~~the above claims~~, in the form of tablets chewable or erodible in the buccal cavity or in the first portion of the gastrointestinal tract.